



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS
Room 372, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, CA 90012 – (213) 974-1465

FOUNDER
Mrs. Sybil Brand

CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Eleanor R. Montano

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Helen Stathatos

Mr. Frank S. Bacio
Mr. Vito Cannella
Mr. James Cragin
Mr. John A. Hammargren
Mr. Carl E. Moore
Mr. Michael A. Russell

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR **SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS** **MEETING OF AUGUST 4, 2004**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Montano at 10:03 a.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Chair Montano led the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

ATTENDANCE - ROLL CALL

Present:

Chair Eleanor R. Montano
Vice Chair Helen H. Stathatos
Frank Bacio
Vito Cannella
John Hammargren
Carl Moore

Absent

James Cragin
Michael Russell

Others Present

B. Eugene Romig, Executive Office
Sherry Scates, Commission Staff

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 28, 2004

On motion of Commissioner Cannella, seconded by Commissioner Hammargren and unanimously carried, the Minutes of July 28, 2004 were approved with the following changes/corrections:

Page 2, Chair's Report, 4th bullet, last sentence: Correct spelling of Hawthorne

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Montano reported on the following:

- Commissioner Cragin is still ill and would not be attending today's meeting. Commissioners expressed their well wishes for his recovery;
- Commissioner Russell is excused from today's meeting;
- At their August 3rd meeting the Board of Supervisors reappointed her, Vice Chair Stathatos and Commissioner Cannella and waived the length of service limitations; and
- She was asked to attend a meeting regarding Mayor Hahn's monitoring of the Miller case, but she was unable to attend because of the short notification.

Chair Montano extended her sincere appreciation for the Commissioners' hard work and dedication and noted that the new staff has resulted in the Commission's significant improvement in productivity this year.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Bacio reported there were no changes to the Commission's Charitable Fund.

STAFF REPORT

B. Eugene Romig, Executive Office, reported that the Commission's new conference room chairs would be delivered on Friday, August 6th.

Sherry Scates, staff, reported the following:

- A listing of group homes that have been closed in the last 5 years has been requested from Damon Wayne of DCFS
- A copy of the group homes "Do Not Refer" list has been requested from Ed Sosa's office at DCFS
- Lt. John Domen, Court Services, will attend the Commission's August 18th business meeting to discuss various issues at the County courts.

CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS

Chair Montano summarized the various Program Audit Reports which were received from the Auditor-Controller's office and shared a personal note of congratulations from Supervisor Knabe who noted that her election as Chair was "truly a historic moment in the Commission's history."

FACILITY/GROUP INSPECTION REPORTS

Revisit - Hudson-Lyndsey/Carlin Group Home – 57 #1

Commissioners Bacio and Russell revisited this facility on July 29th and gave it a rating of **satisfactory**. Areas of concern: More educational materials needed; computer and 5 T.V.s had been broken by residents; day room/TV room needs cleaning.

Revisit – Renaissance Unlimited – 92 #3

Chair Montano and Commissioners Hammagren and Moore revisited this facility on July 29th and were accompanied by Doris Reed, Auditor-Controller; Terrence Mc Clain and Anna Correa, Licensing Program Analysts, Community Care Licensing, from the state DPSS, and found that none of the unsatisfactory conditions reported by the Commission's inspections of July 12th and July 29th had been corrected and gave it a rating of **unsatisfactory**. Chair Montano noted that she had received a letter from the home's administrator dated July 31st, which stated that the deficiencies reported on the Commission's recent visit had been corrected. Commissioners were doubtful that the many deficiencies they reported on their last inspection had been corrected in one day, as stated in the letter. Commissioners plan to revisit this facility in the near future.

C&R/Masada/South Shore House – 22 #3

Chair Montano and Commissioners Hammargren and Russell visited this facility on August 2nd and gave it a rating of **excellent** with no areas of concern observed or reported.

Halinor West Covina – 103 #3

Commissioners Bacio and Moore visited this facility on August 3rd and gave it a rating of **satisfactory**. Areas of concern: leaking bath tub; loose handle on toilet; dryer hose had become disconnected and was venting into garage rafters, which is a fire hazard; batteries missing in 2 smoke detectors; fire extinguishers were charged but had no expiration tags.

Project Six/Corwin – 91 #1

Vice Chair Stathatos and Commissioner Cannella visited this facility on July 29th and found that the home had been closed although it still appears on the Group Homes Site Directory. An updated list has been requested from DCFS.

Arrowhead Emancipation Home/Fair Oaks – 3 #2

Vice Chair Stathatos and Commissioner Cannella visited this facility on August 2nd and gave it a rating of **satisfactory**. Areas of concern: keys were kept in a drawer and not carried by staff.

Optimist Boys Home/Altadena – 80 #1

Vice Chair Stathatos and Commissioner Cannella visited this facility on August 2nd and gave it a rating of **satisfactory**. Areas of concern: grounds need attention; dining room carpet needs cleaning.

NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA (To Be Presented and Placed On a Future Meeting Agenda)

- Discussion of Commission's future goals
- Add "Response to Commission's Request to Review and Suggest Possible Changes to Inspection Forms" to Department Updates at next business meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Montano adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Scates
Staff, Commission Services